
FINANCIAL SERVICES REPUBLICAN MORNING CLIPS 3.24.2010

Wall Street Journal: "U.S. Urged to Keep Role in Mortgages ... The federal government should continue to have a role supporting the mortgage market after Congress restructures or winds down mortgage-finance giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told lawmakers Tuesday."

Wall Street Journal: "No End to U.S. Housing Handouts ... The time to get out of a toxic relationship is when its ill effects are undeniable. At this point in the housing crisis, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner could have used Tuesday's speech on the mortgage market to convince America it is time to end its relationship with housing subsidies. Instead, he suggested ways to make it less dysfunctional."

Wall Street Journal: "Tax-Break Battle Flares ... J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. is nearing a deal that would allow it to benefit from a tax refund of as much as \$1.4 billion, becoming the latest company to tap a little-noticed plank in an economic stimulus bill."

Wall Street Journal: "Yellen Counters Criticism on Inflation Fighting ... Janet Yellen, a front-runner for the job of vice chairman of the Federal Reserve, asserted her credentials as an inflation fighter but also said there's no urgency to tighten monetary policy any time soon because inflation is still moving lower."

Wall Street Journal: "Feinberg Caps Pay at AIG, Others ... U.S. pay czar Kenneth Feinberg said Tuesday his \$500,000 restriction on cash salaries will cover 82% of the 119 top executives at the five companies he oversees. Five executives at American International Group Inc., one of the five firms, will receive more than that."

Wall Street Journal: "Another Wall Street Bonus ... We keep reading that we live in the era of deleveraging, when everyone borrows less. But if that's true, there is one great exception: government. U.S. cities, states and the feds have issued more than \$2.5 trillion of new debt since 2008, with another nearly \$2 trillion scheduled in 2010."

Wall Street Journal: "Will Walmart Pay for the Next Bailout? ... On Monday the Senate Banking Committee passed the "Restoring American Financial Stability Act of 2010" on a 13-10, party-line vote."

Washington Post: "Pay czar limits salaries for top executives at 5 firms ... The Obama administration's pay czar on Tuesday announced further pay cuts for top executives at five U.S. firms still receiving substantial help from the federal government, saying the vast majority of cash salaries will remain at \$500,000 or less."

NY Times: "A First Step on Fannie and Freddie ... Despite growing pressure from Congress to act quickly, the Obama administration is moving tentatively to develop a plan to reshape Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the mortgage-finance companies taken over by the government 18 months ago."

LA Times: "Geithner backs reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac ... Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner signaled his support Tuesday for reforming beleaguered mortgage finance giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac."

LA Times: "Fed cracks down on gift card abuses ... The Federal Reserve issued new rules Tuesday to protect Americans from getting stung by unexpected fees or restrictions on gift cards."

LA Times: "Whose board is it? ... Lawmakers trying to avert the next Wall Street bailout are still struggling to reach consensus on how to overhaul the country's financial regulatory regime.'

USA Today: "Top execs didn't leave firms after TARP pay cut rules ... Top talent didn't bolt last year even after the Treasury Department's pay czar slashed executive compensation at seven big firms that have received extraordinary aid from taxpayers."

USA Today: "Debate on the future of Fannie, Freddie heats up ... U.S. lawmakers are starting to wrestle with how to replace Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the mortgage giants that nearly collapsed at the start of the financial meltdown."

Washington Times: "Fed cracks down on gift-card abuses ... The Federal Reserve issued new rules on Tuesday to protect Americans from getting stung by unexpected fees or restrictions on gift cards."

Washington Times: "RAHN: The necessity of failure ... The expression "Failure is not an option" may be a motivator for very high-risk situations, but failure must always be an option for players in a properly functioning market economy."

Forbes: "Finance For The People ... We are now at a critical juncture in the effort to revise the structure of financial regulation in the U.S. Senator Christopher Dodd, Chair of the Senate Banking Committee, after months of seeking a

compromise that would generate bipartisan support, has put forward his own version of a reform bill."

POLITICO: "Finance reform fate still murky ... It took only 21 minutes for Democrats to approve a 1,336-page financial reform bill Monday, in a committee vote that drew zero Republican support."

POLITICO: "Barack Obama to overhaul Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac ... Fresh off a procedural victory in Congress on Wall Street regulatory reform, the Obama administration Tuesday turned its attention to the next massive and controversial financial fight in Congress: overhauling Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac."

POLITICO: "Timothy Geithner, Chris Dodd at odds over N.Y. Fed ... Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner may be an alumnus of the New York Fed, but that doesn't mean he has stopped thinking about his old stomping ground."

POLITICO: "Let Lehman report serve as a lesson ... Former Lehman boss Dick Fuld is reportedly jubilant about being 'vindicated' by the voluminous Lehman bankruptcy examiner's report."